



Bright Opportunities for Brownfields with Brightfields

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is turning Brownfields into "Brightfields" by incorporating solar energy technologies into the redevelopment of contaminated industrial or commercial sites. DOE's Brightfields program works with local governments and industry to revitalize communities and advance the use of clean and climate-friendly energy technologies.

For example, the Brightfields program helped the City of Chicago convert an urban Brownfield site to productive use through the construction of a solar energy products manufacturing plant. Some of the solar power systems produced by the plant will be used on other Brownfield sites in the city to generate clean electricity. The project has created 100 new jobs, cleaned up the Brownfield, and added a clean source of energy to the city's economy.

Brightfields can include a variety of projects, such as solar manufacturing facilities, on-site solar electric generating systems, and solar installations in buildings. Brightfield projects promote sustainable communities by facilitating Brownfield remediation and redevelopment; increasing the reliability of electricity supply; promoting clean, energy-related economic development, promoting the use of renewable energy technologies; improving air quality; reducing greenhouse gas emissions; and creating jobs.

For more information on the Brightfields program and funding opportunities, visit <http://www.eren.doe.gov/brightfields/>. For more information on Brightfields activities in Indiana, contact Juli Pollitt (juli.pollitt@ee.doe.gov), Chicago Regional Office, Chicago, IL 60606, 312-886-8571.